

Appendix A

Description of Furbearer Survey Trapping, Hunting, and Harvest Data Files

**License Years
1996 to 2003**

Furbearer Survey Statistical Estimates of Trapping, Hunting, and Harvest

Description of Data Files

License Years 1996 to 2003

Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks

Harvest Surveys

March 21, 2005

This document contains a description of a data file of statistical estimates of trapping, hunting, and harvest in Montana for License Years 1996 through 2003, plus descriptions of other data files containing data definitions. These data files are related to the **Furbearer Survey Reports** for 1996 through 2003. They were exported from the original Oracle data sets from which all of the formatted tabular listings of expanded statistical estimates in those reports were generated.

The data is distributed as compressed **Comma Separated Value ASCII text files**. The data files have the extension ***.Csv**. Character values are quoted. Numeric values are exported to 3 decimal places. Column headers are not included in the data. The data file names and definitions are given below. Column names and formats are also given in the ***.sch** file which accompanies each *.csv file. Many widely available software applications allow simple import of comma separated value ASCII text files into database tables. The included statistical estimates can then be selected, sorted, and formatted as desired for further tabular or graphical presentation, or additional summary and analysis.

This document is included with the **2003 Furbearer Survey Report as Appendix A** (WORD document **2003FurTrapHarvRpt_Apdx.Doc**), and as a stand alone Rich Text Format document (**FurHH_2003to1996_DataDefn.Rtf**).

FurHH_2003to1996_050321.Csv – Furbearer Survey Data Table of Statistical Estimates of Trapping, Hunting, and Harvest for License Years 1996 to 2003 (Last date estimates were assembled into across year table: March 21, 2005)

- **LicYr (License Year):** 4 digit License Year (1996...2003). The year the general Furbearer season begins.
- **Spp (Species):** 3 character Furbearer Species code. Codes are defined in the data file **FurSpecies03.Csv**.
- **Loc (Location):** 3 character Location code. STA = Statewide. R01..R07, R09 = Region 1..7 and Region unknown. (Furbearer Districts approximate FWP administrative Regions.) 3 digit numeric codes are County codes defined in the data file **County03_Fur.Csv**.

- **Activity:** 1 character Furbearer Activity code. A=All combined. T=Trapping/Snaring. H=Hunting without hounds. D=Hunting with Hounds.
- **Sort_LY:** 1 digit License Year sorting code. 1=Individual license year. (0 reserved for across license year average.)
- **Sort_Loc:** 1 digit Location sorting code. 0=Statewide. 1=Regional (Furbearer District), 2=County.
- **Sort_Act:** 1 digit Activity sorting code. 0=All Activities combined. 1=Trapping. 2=Hunting no hounds. 3=Hunting with hounds.
- **Sales:** Furbearer License Sales for the License Year.
- **Exp_Fact (Expansion Factor):** Sales divided by Furbearer Survey responses analyzed, for a given License Year. Factor by which the Furbearer response summary statistics were expanded into statistical estimates of trapping, hunting, and harvest.
- **Hunt (Trappers or Hunters):** Point estimate of number of Furbearer license holders that actively trapped, snared, hunted or used hounds in the effort to take a Furbearer species during the Furbearer season.
- **Hunt_L:** Lower 80% Confidence Bound on estimate Hunt.
- **Hunt_U:** Upper 80% Confidence Bound on estimate Hunt.
- **EffRec (Effort Records):** Point estimate of number of Furbearer Activities pursued for all individual species in individual Counties in a given License Year. Can be used to compute further statistics of Furbearer effort.
- **SucHunt (Successful Trappers or Hunters):** Point estimate of number of Active Furbearer Trappers or Hunters taking one or more Furbearer animals.
- **SucHunt_L:** Lower 80% Confidence Bound on estimate SucHunt.
- **SucHunt_U:** Upper 80% Confidence Bound on estimate SucHunt.
- **SucRec (Success Records):** Point estimate of number of Furbearer Activities pursued for all individual species in individual Counties in a given License Year, that resulted in the harvest of one or more Furbearer animals. Can be used to compute further statistics of Furbearer success.
- **Traps (Traps Set):** Applies only to Trapping Activity (T) records. Point estimate of number of Traps set
- **Traps_L:** Lower 80% Confidence Bound on estimate Traps.
- **Traps_U:** Upper 80% Confidence Bound on estimate Traps.
- **HDays (Activity Days):** Point estimate of number of days or partial days engaged in a Furbearer Activity.
- **HDays_L:** Lower 80% Confidence Bound on estimate HDays.
- **HDays_U:** Upper 80% Confidence Bound on estimate HDays.
- **Harv (Harvest or Catch):** Point estimate of number of Furbearer animals harvested.
- **Harv_L:** Lower 80% Confidence Bound on estimate Harv.
- **Harv_U:** Upper 80% Confidence Bound on estimate Harv.
- **TDays (Trap Days):** Applies only to Trapping Activity (T) records. Sum of all days or partial days engaged in Trapping Activity multiplied by number of traps set. An estimate of Trapping effort.
- **TDays_L:** Lower 80% Confidence Bound on estimate TDays.
- **TTDays_U:** Upper 80% Confidence Bound on estimate TDays.
- **PctSppComp (Species Percent Composition):** Total Harvest of a given Species, divided by Total Harvest of ALL Species, within a given Location, for a given Activity, expressed as a percent. Provides an estimate of the percent Furbearer species composition of Harvest at a given Location by a given Activity.
- **PctSuc (Percent Success):** Successful Hunters/Trappers divided by Active Hunters/Trappers. An estimate of the percent of active Furbearer license holders that harvested one or more Furbearer animals.
- **Suc_BSC1 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 1):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where only **one** animal was taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity. The percent of harvest within the 8 bag size classes Suc_BSC1 ... Suc_BSC8) provide a frequency distribution of number of animals harvested.
- **Suc_BSC2 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 2):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **2 to 3** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..
- **Suc_BSC3 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 3):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **4 to 6** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..
- **Suc_BSC4 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 4):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **7 to 10** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..
- **Suc_BSC5 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 5):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **11 to 15** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..

- **Suc_BSC6 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 6):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **16 to 21** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..
- **Suc_BSC7 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 7):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **22 to 29** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..
- **Suc_BSC8 (Percent of Harvest of Bag Size Class 8):** An estimate of the percent of Harvest where **30 or more** animals were taken, of a given Species, at a given Location, by a given Activity..

Various ratios and percents further describing Furbearer trapping and hunting effort, and harvest success, can be computed based on these provided statistics. Please refer to the Introduction of the **2003 Furbearer Survey Report** for definitions of these ratios and percents, and examples of their use. The report introduction also further explains the survey and analysis methods used to produce the included statistical estimates.

Two additional definition data files are included. **County03_Fur.Csv** contains definitions of County codes used by Harvest Surveys, and **FurSpecies03.Csv** contains definitions of Furbearer Species codes.

County03_Fur.Csv – Harvest Surveys Table of Fur County Code Definitions for License Year 2003 (3 digit Codes apply to all County codes used in the included Furbearer Table of Statistical Estimates for License Years 1996 to 2003.)

- **Spp (Species):** 2 character Survey Species Code. The Spp code is 'FB' for County definition records relating to the Furbearer Survey.
- **Season:** 1 character Season Code. The Season code is 'A' for all County definition records relating to the Furbearer Survey.
- **County:** 3 digit County Code. These County codes have been used by Harvest Surveys since the start of LY 2000, including all county codes used in the Furbearer Survey Across Years 1996-2003 Table of Statistical Estimates.
- **Region:** 1 digit Region Code. Correspond to FWP administrative Regions 1..7, and 9 for Unknown Region. Furbearer Districts correspond to Regions.
- **County_Name:** 15 character Montana County Name.
- **County_Old:** 2 character County Code used by Harvest Surveys prior to LY2000. Allows translation between old and new County coding systems. (These old codes are not used in the multi-year Furbearer statistics data table.)

FurSpecies03.Csv – Harvest Surveys Table of Furbearer Species Code Definitions for License Year 2003 (3 character Species Codes apply to all Species codes used in the included Furbearer Table of Statistical Estimates for License Years 1996 to 2003.)

- **Spp_No (Species Number):** 2 digit code used for Furbearer Survey data entry.
- **Spp (Species):** 3 character Furbearer Species code.
- **Spp_Name (Species Name):** 12 character Furbearer Species name as used on Furbearer Survey and in Furbearer Survey Reports.